

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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P 110832Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6108

UNCLAS ATHENS 8204

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ASUP, GR

SUBJECT: LEASING IBM MEMORY TYPEWRITERS

REF: STATE 192074; ATHENS 7461

1. THE ELECTRIC POWER/CURRENT USED IN ATHENS IS 220V, 50 CYCLES. IF THE 2 IBM MAG I SYSTEMS PRESENTLY IN USE IN EUROPE WHICH THE BUREAU PROPOSES TO PURCHASE FOR ATHENS ARE 220V, 50 CYCLES, NO CONVERSION IS NECESSARY AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 2 OF THE REFTEL

2. THE IBM ATHENS REPRESENTATIVE SAYS THAT THE MAG I SYSTEM IS AN OLDER MODEL NO LONGER MANUFACTURED, THEREFORE THEY DO NOT STOCK PARTS FOR IT. IF CONVERSION IS NECESSARY FOR THE OLDER MAG I IT WILL COST APPROXIMATELY \$600 - \$800 TO ORDER PARTS FOR EACH MACHINE IF ORDERED DIRECT BY THE EMBASSY (DUTY FREE, ETC.) FROM THE USA PLUS APPROXIMATELY \$1000 FOR EACH MACHINE FOR LOCAL LABOR COSTS. THE NEWER MODELS, THE 82M TYPEWRITERS, HAVE THE TIME SAVING CORRECTION FEATURE WHICH THE EMBASSY NEEDS, AS WELL AS A PITCH SELECTOR, AUTOMATIC UNDERLINING AND CENTERING, DECIMAL TABULATION, AND AN INTERNAL ELECTRONIC MEMORY - A COMPACT BUILT-IN STORAGE SYSTEM

3. BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL FEATURES THE 82M OFFERS OVER THE MAG I THE EMBASSY PREFERS THE NEWER 82M MEMORY TYPEWRITER OVER THE OLDER MAG I SYSTEM. PROBABLY LOCAL MAINTENANCE FOR THE OLDER MAG I MODELS WILL BE A PROBLEM SINCE THE LOCAL IBM REPRESENTATIVE NO LONGER STOCKS PARTS FOR THIS MODEL

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4. GRANTED THE LOCAL IBM REPRESENTATIVE IS INTERESTED IN SELLING

(THROUGH THE USA, ETC.) A NEW 82M TYPEWRITER, BUT THE MORE
COMPACT 82M HAS THE FEATURES THE EMBASSY CONSULATE CAN EFFICIENTLY
UTILIZE IN TYPING HIGH QUALITY LETTERS AND REPORTS QUICKLY AND
EASILY.

5. LOCAL SERVICE CONTRACT CAN BE ARRANGED FOR A MAG I
SYSTEM IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PURCHASE/LEASE THE 82M EQUIPMENT.
IF THE BUREAU WILL NOT AUTHORIZE THE LEASE/PURCHASE OF THE 82M,
THEN AS A SECOND CHOICE THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE MAG I
SYSTEM. PLEASE ADVISE THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE OLDER MAG I (MAGNETIC
CARD) TYPEWRITERS YOU PROPOSE TO SEND TO ATHENS, MODEL, YEAR,
ELECTRONIC SPECIFICATIONS, POWER/CURRENT, ETC.
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